

NeSA-Writing

ENE133

2012

GRADE 11

Writing

Scoring Guide

Writing Topic

2012 Final Prompt:

- A generous millionaire has agreed to fund a one-week trip for a group of ten students from your school.
- Think about a local, national or global place. This trip could be a vacation spot and/or include a particular event, awards ceremony, sporting event, or festival.
- Write a persuasive essay convincing the millionaire that your trip should be chosen. Consider the attractions and educational benefits of your choice.

Ideas / Content

I think this trip should take music oriented kids to see a major orchestral performance. This trip would be very educational and would help to reintroduce classical music to children. Most kids my age have never heard classical music other than what is in TV shows and movies. The trip could help these individuals discover their love for music and even widen the variety of musical genres they listen to. It could also help them to finally decide to pursue a career in music. Maybe these kids could even use this opportunity to use their imagination through music.

To most kids classical music is just plain boring. It has no lyrics, no catchy beat, and no electronically produced sounds. It's just a bunch of people making noises to the majority of teenagers. They don't see the magic in classical music. Kids don't see the hard work and the skill it takes to produce such a wonderful genre of music. This is mostly because they have never been properly introduced to classical music. Most kids have never even heard a full orchestral piece, or even one entire movement. Maybe they recognise classical music because of some old Tom and Jerry episode or a Mickey Mouse movie they watched as a kid, but they haven't truly sat down and let the music wash over them. Kids need to experience classical music. Whether they decide to like it or not, they still should have that opportunity to really listen to this fantastic genre.

Most teenagers look at pop musicians and say to themselves "I would love to be like them," but they haven't seen where music started. Most of today's big musicians have some kind of background in classical music. Whether they listened to it as a kid or have a college degree in music, they have some understanding of classical music. If kids were to see where it all began and relate it to today's popular music, they might just finally find that last little "push" that makes them want to make music for the rest of their lives. These kids could see how music is not just some noise blasting through a speaker. They could take this chance to change their entire perception of music.

Classical music has a lot to do with stories, even though it has no words. Classical music tells stories through the emotions that it portrays. This gives the listener a chance to take that music and make it into whatever story they want it to be. This song doesn't have to be about one thing. This gives the kids a chance to use their imagination in a way that isn't possible anywhere else. The chance to use raw emotion and create their very own story that is unique to them. To someone a song could be about a rabbit and how he works his way through dangerous woods to

find his way home. To someone else that same song could mean a sword fight between two really talented swordsmen where the good guy finally wins in the end.

This trip could give a child the experience that either changes his life-long decisions or just changes the way he or she listens to music. This trip will change a kid's life for the better. It could introduce a whole new world of music to these children. These children will cherish this trip for the rest of their lives.

Ideas/Content: 4

4-4-4-4

The writer conveys a clear opinion regarding the benefits to students of a trip to see a major orchestral performance (*This trip would be very educational and would help to reintroduce classical music to children... help these individuals discover their love for music... use this opportunity to use their imagination through music*). The content is well focused throughout the response and the reasoning is logical (*Whether they decide to like it or not, they still should have that opportunity to really listen to this fantastic genre... chance to use raw emotion and create their very own story that is unique to them*) and somewhat compelling (*This trip will change a kid's life for the better*). The supporting examples are numerous and relevant.

Washington D.C., the capital of our great nation, is a place that is not only educational but also historical. This city is one of the most important cities in the United States because it holds an important key in our nation's history. I believe that we should be allowed the opportunity to visit Washington D.C. for three main reasons; one is all of the historical information held in the monuments constructed throughout the city, another is all of the other areas that embrace educational value, and lastly, it would not only be an educational experience but a fun one as well. In this essay I will discuss why I believe the students from my school should be given the chance to visit our nations capital, Washington D.C.

There are many monuments placed throughout the city of Washington. The two main types of monuments in the city are monuments that are dedicated in memory of presidents and monuments that were created in honor of wars or battles. A few presidential monuments that would be beneficial for us to visit include the Lincoln Memorial, which was dedicated in honor of president Abraham Lincoln and was also the site where Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech, and the Washington Monument, which was built to preserve the memory of our first president, George Washington. We should go to these two monuments in particular because of the historical value they hold. These monuments would help give us another way to learn about our past and how we came to be the nation we are today. Two other sites that are available in Washington that were created in the memory of presidents include John F. Kennedy's gravesite, which is home to the eternal flame, and the Jefferson Monument. These areas also help us honor our deceased presidents and would be beneficial for us to visit to learn more about the presidents and celebrate their many accomplishments.

Another type of monument that is seen in Washington D.C. are war memorials. The city is home to memorials that commemorate a majority of the wars our nation has been in including World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. These monuments would be essential for us to visit if we were to go to the capital because they help symbolize what the soldiers and people had to go through during the time period in order of us to be able to live free today. These sites are an excellent place for people to be able to pay homage to the great men and women who gave their lives to defend our country.

There are many other areas of educational value in Washington that would be fun to be able to experience, such as the White House, the Smithsonian museums, and the National Archives. The White House would be an important place for us to visit, even if we can't have a tour inside, because it has been the home of many of our presidents and would give us a historical experience that would educate us about the numerous great leaders our country has had. The Smithsonian museums are a group of museums that have different artifacts that have been collected overtime and would be not only educationally beneficial to visit but also fun. The museums are home to not only historical artifacts, such as the first flag and some early musical instruments, but also items that are more fun, such as Dorothy's red ruby slippers from the Wizard of Oz and a replica of Julia Child's kitchen. Seeing these objects would be an enjoyable and educational way to learn about many different events, people, places, and things. Lastly, the National Archives would be an excellent place for us to visit because it is home to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, which are the two legal documents on which our nation bases all of its laws and judgment. Viewing these would bring into

perspective how our nation came to be and just how important rules and laws are when trying to keep a nation running.

There are also more fun alternatives to visit while in Washington D.C., such as parks, restaurants, and even shopping centers. These places may not be the most educational, but they are a fun way to take a break from all of the historical information and simply go around the city sightseeing. This would be constructive to not only help people relax but to make the experience more enjoyable.

In conclusion, today I have discussed with you some different reasons why we should be allowed to go to Washington D.C. I listed some monuments and gave their historical significance, touched on some different educational places throughout the city, and also gave a brief explanation on some of the more fun alternatives available in the city. As you can see, our nation's capital is the smartest option of where we should go on our school trip. This trip would be an experience that would last a lifetime.

Ideas/Content: 4

4-3-4-4

The writer conveys a clear opinion regarding the historical and educational benefits of a trip to Washington D.C. The content is well focused on the topic (*all of the historical information held in the monuments... all of the other areas that embrace educational value*) and the reasoning is logical and compelling (*help us honor our deceased presidents... to learn more about the presidents and celebrate their many accomplishments... help symbolize what the soldiers and people had to go through during the time period in order for us to be able to live free today... bring into perspective how our nation came to be and just how important rules and laws are*). Supporting examples are numerous (*Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, John F. Kennedy's gravesite, War memorial, White House National Archives, Museums*) and relevant.

Trip of a Lifetime

If a generous millionaire agreed to fund a one-week trip for ten students from my school, I would know the perfect destination. New York is so amazing in many different ways. Niagara Falls is one of the most beautiful and exciting places a person could be at. Not only can every pupil enjoy the scenic views of the huge falls from the United States, but also right across the way to Canada. When I had gone there it was just as beautiful from both sides.

You think you would just be standing around looking at waterfalls? No, that is just one of the many out-of-this-world activities you can experience. There are shops, like Hard Rock Café, and a variety of stores you could venture to that would not be in your home town.

One of the most exciting activities to do at Niagara Falls is to be right next to them! Everyone would go put on big blue water-resistant over-sized shirts, then head off to the big boat. The boat is packed with tourists from around the world waiting to be right next to the falls. This experience is like no other, and you will get whipped by the wind and water from the falls, but you'll want to go again after it's over.

You could also go on a little adventure at the falls. There is a special place where people can walk to on the rocks of the falls, and get drenched by the speeding water. Make sure to bring water-proof cameras, because those pictures would be priceless.

After you've spent the whole day adventuring and witnessing one of the most beautiful places, you could then find a fancy hotel and start all over again the next day.

This trip should be chosen because the adventures and memories would be the best of everyone's lives! Not only will all the students have the most fun ever, but it's a learning experience too. Getting to explore a different part of the country and learning about a place you've never been is priceless and full of education on its own.

New York in general, is a fabulous place. When you've seen everything the Falls has to offer, you could travel a little ways to the big city and experience a totally different view of the state. Everyone is out having a good time, and there are bright lights everywhere. It is beautiful in a very opposite way than Niagara Falls, but just as magnificent. No other place can compare!

Ideas/Content: 3

3-3-3-4

The writer conveys a general opinion about the benefits of a trip to Niagara Falls (*Niagara Falls is one of the most beautiful and exciting places a person could be at... the adventures and memories would be the best of everyone's lives!*). The content is generally focused on the topic of Niagara Falls; however, a slight shift involving a more general discussion of New York and the big city detracts from the main focus of the essay. The reasoning is logical and somewhat convincing (*enjoy the scenic views of the huge falls... you will get whipped by the wind and water from the falls, but you will want to go again... spent the whole day adventuring and witnessing one of the most beautiful places*) and supporting examples, while adequate and relevant, are not numerous.

With the agreed fund for a one-week trip anywhere, a great highly educated choice would be Hawaii. This destination is a place many have not yet seen with their own eyes. It's a popular place that can help educated students about islands and volcanoes. In Hawaii they also have different cultural things they do and say.

Nine out of ten students here at _____ High School have never been to Hawaii and would enjoy having the chance too. Everyone has seen picture of Hawaii's town, volcanoes, and people but it's not the same as standing right in front of it. Students can grow much more knowledge about Hawaii and be able to look at it through a different perspective. Why go to a destination where everyone has been? How fun would that be? So Hawaii is the perfect fit to avoid that problem.

In Hawaii they have volcanoes that we learn about in history class. We see pictures of them exploding and all the damages they create. To learn about this sitting in a chair at school doesn't bring the full affect. No one's fully interested in a boring power point in history, but having the chances to see the historic events and damages that our teachers talked about will grab way more attention. We can learn about all the islands near Hawaii and learn the purpose of each and everything that goes on there.

Customs here in _____ are worlds different from what the people in Hawaii practice today. We wear different attire; talk and use slang words differently and just live a normal life differently. Students in high school are never really aware that this different people out in the world, we expect everyone to do and act just like us. Well, to get the chance to go to Hawaii, student's eyes will open when they see how unique Hawaii really is. They can see their people, restaurants and towns all with a little trip to Hawaii. They can learn some of their practices and gestures as well. I think this would be a neat learning experience.

Given the chance by a generous millionaire to go somewhere for one week, I strongly push for Hawaii. It's a place many people have not been, but going you can learn much information. It will take students beyond the books in history, to real life experiences. Hawaii would be a great trip to attend in high school. It would be a life long remembrance.

Ideas/Content: 3

3-3-3-3

The writer conveys a general opinion about the benefits of a trip to Hawaii. The content is generally focused on the idea that learning about the islands, the volcanoes, and the cultural differences would be greater and more beneficial by visiting and experiencing Hawaii first hand rather than simply learning from books or PowerPoint presentations in class. The reasoning is logical and convincing (*Students can grow much more knowledge about Hawaii and be able to look at it through a different perspective... having the chances to see the historic events and damages that our teachers talked about will grab way more attention... student's eyes will open when they see how unique Hawaii really is... It will take the students beyond the books in history*), and the supporting examples are adequate and relevant.

A generous millionaire has decided to send ten kids from my school on a trip of a lifetime, with a destination of our choice. Every kid has a chance to choose a place to go, and whoever picks the best place, wins!

If I were to make the decision about this, I would have to think long and hard on where I would want to go. After a long time of thinking, I would have to choose the Big Easy, Mardi grass in the great city of New Orleans.

New Orleans is a very special city. Not many places have gone through as much adversity as a place like New Orleans. A city that could rebuild itself after such a terrible Natural Disaster is a place that I just have to see.

I think that my city should be picked because of the great history, and ethnicity New Orleans has. Mardi Gras has been going on for years and I've heard nothing but good things about it. Mardi Gras is a big two-week long party where all the people of New Orleans, and many visitors from out of town, come and celebrate. There would be so many things to do, and so many sights to see, and from what I've heard, the food is out of this world.

I would want to go there for more than just to have fun though. There are still many people in New Orleans that are still suffering from the Natural disaster known as Katrina. If my trip were picked, my nine friends and me would go and help out anyone who is still suffering from the hurricane for a whole day. But for the other thirteen days, I'm sure we would have a blast. A city with such rich culture, I think it would be impossible for us not to!

Ideas/Content: 2

2-3-3-3

The writer conveys a limited opinion about the benefits of a trip to New Orleans (*There would be so many things to do, and so many sights to see*). Supporting examples or reasons for taking the trip are limited and the reasoning is not particularly convincing (*A city that could rebuild itself after such a terrible Natural Disaster is a place that I just have to see*).

For our trip we should go to Disney World in Florida. It has everything a person loves. Disney World has many so many different parks to go to, places to shop at and endless fun. By the time the trip is over, we will never want to leave.

At Disney World you are never not doing nothing. There are so many different parks you could chose to go to. I remember when I was in the fifth grade my parents took me and my sister to Disney World. We could only go to one or two parks in one day because there was so much. There is the Magic Kingdom, where Cinderella's castle is located, where all of the Disney characters are. There is a parade and fireworks at night. There is the Epcot resort where you learn about different cultures. The Animal Kingdom is really cool. It has performances such as the Lion King, Tarzan, and the Bugs Life. Disney World also has two water parks. The Typhoon Lagoon and Blizzard Beach: which actually has one of the largest water slides in the world.

Ideas/Content: 2

2-2-2-2

The writer conveys a limited opinion about the benefits of a trip to Walt Disney World. While the reasoning is somewhat logical (*you are never doing nothing... There are so many different parks you could chose to go to*), the supporting examples are limited in their development and are therefore only somewhat convincing.

First of all, i would like to thank you for being generous and giving kids your money to have a great high school memory. There are a lot of places i would love to go to. Not many people are as nice as you and giving out there money for a good cause.If my school got chosen i wouldnt even know what to do!

Where would i go? There is so many amazing places in the would, it would be hard to choose one place.I think it would be fun to go to a big museum in a big town. It would be nice to get out of a small town, and see the world. I would like to go do a museum that dinosaurs in it. Now that would be fun!

The other place i would love to go to, would be a NBA game, or a NFL game. My whole life i have always wanted to go to a NBA or NFL game. I love sports! I would like to watch the Mami Heat play the Thunder. We all know that the Heat would win because they have LeBron James. In NFL i would like to watch the Eagles play the Stealers. My favorite player in the NFL is Michael Vick.

I have told you where i would like to go. I would like to thank you again. I would be very blessed to go on a trip to a big city and get out of here! This would be a great memory and i would never forget about it.

Ideas/Content: 1

1-2-2-2

The writer conveys little opinion about the topic. There is little development of ideas and the content lacks focus and digresses from a big museum in a big town to an NBA or NFL game. Supporting examples or reasons are lacking.

Three reasons why ten students from my school should travel to Washington D.C. Reason one is because they would get to learn about how the war began and who was the president in office when it began. and also get to know who where all the president and how they died

reason two they would learn who started the war and how they ended it

where the first war began and also how many of our troops died fight for our country and what they believed in. Reason three they would see the

capital they would see the white house which would be really awesome if they

haven't been there before they would also get to learn about the new things going on in our country today and what the president plans on doing to end the war.

Ideas/Content: 1

1-1-1-1

The writer conveys little opinion about the benefits of a trip to Washington D.C. While one supporting reason has been presented (*they would see the capital they would see the white house*), it is lacking in further development. The apparent digression to a discussion of a war doesn't seem to support the idea of a trip to Washington as the reasoning is unclear and confusing.

Organization

Many people dream of traveling the world, but rarely have the time or money to do so. There is much that can be learned from visiting other parts of the world, not only is the culture different, but these places also provide knowledge about many historical sites. If a millionaire were to fund a trip for ten students there is no doubt the best destination for this trip would be Europe. In a one-week tour of Europe a student could see numerous historical sites, gain insight into another culture, and have the experience of a lifetime.

Among the many countries in Europe there is an abundance of historical sites to see and learn from. From the Coliseum to the Leaning Tower of Pisa there is knowledge to be absorbed in every part of Europe. Students would be able to see history come to life before their eyes. They may read about these places in a textbook, but when students see these monuments in real life it will spark an interest and desire for learning that would not have been sparked otherwise. By taking students on a tour of Europe they will not only be educated, but be excited about the knowledge they are receiving as well.

Along with visiting historical monuments, students will be able to experience the culture of many different European countries. Culture is different in every country and individual visits, so students will be able to see the way of life of multiple groups of people who may have a completely different view of life than their own. Since culture is an aspect of life that is so hard to learn from a textbook, taking the students to Europe opens a door for them that can lead to so much more insight and knowledge. Culture has to be experienced, and this trip will allow for students to consider and understand how other people around the world live. By gaining this insight, students will be better equipped for situations in which they will be working with people of different backgrounds as their own. Because they were graciously given the opportunity to learn from the many cultures of Europe, they will be more prepared for specific situations in the future.

While the history and culture are very important contributors as to why Europe is so educationally beneficial, the joy this trip would give to the students is the true reason as to why it is the best choice. There is a ridiculously large number of students who could never in their entire lifetime be able to afford a trip this extravagant, and by allowing ten students to tour Europe it truly could mean the world to them. Believe it or not, there are students who yearn for knowledge and want to travel to other countries to learn and grow from the experience. This trip would allow for that desire to be fulfilled. In today's society, youth do not appear to be as motivated to learn as they have been in the past, so if there are students who would love the opportunity to learn then how could a person say no to them? This trip would give students the chance of a lifetime. For so many students traveling to another country is only a fantasy, but this trip could bring that fantasy to life.

There is no doubt a trip to Europe would be educational considering all of the historical sites and monuments. But along with the physical aspects of education come all the knowledge that can be gained simply from being there. The culture is an experience in and of itself. The culture is something that cannot be learned in America and would be useful for the rest of the students' lives. But besides the educational benefits, these students would be given an opportunity they could have only dreamed of before. And there is no greater satisfaction than knowing ten students will have the time of their lives because of your generosity.

Organization: 4

4-4-4-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about a trip to Europe. Pacing is well controlled and introductory transitional phrases, along with internal transitions, effectively connect the ideas in a smooth and logical progression. A strong conclusion effectively summarizes the three main arguments with a satisfying ending. Paragraphing is sound.

Right now in my history class we are learning about World War II. One thing that most interests my classmates and I about World War II is the Holocaust. Though all of us know what happened during the Holocaust, it is unthinkable for us to grasp how many people were tortured and killed. If a millionaire was going to grant a group of students from my school a trip somewhere, it should be the Holocaust Museum. A trip to the Holocaust Museum would help us comprehend what the Jews, and many other Germans, had to endure during the Holocaust. Since the Holocaust Museum is located in Washington D.C., the students could also tour other parts of the city to learn about historical marks in D.C. Being from a small town in the Midwest, many kids my age have not had the chance to travel to a big city, a trip to D.C. would give them one.

My history teacher gave us a reading packet she obtained from the Holocaust Museum when she visited it. The packet contains pages of explicit information about what each prisoner in the Holocaust endured. This packet is used by guides in the museum to describe the experiences of prisoners. Despite this great information each student in my class is learning, we still cannot seem to grasp the idea of such a massacre. Each student realizes how horrible this event was. We all know that Hitler killed millions of people, not just Jews, during his plan to create his "Master Race". Going to the museum and having the ability to visualize how horrible their conditions really were would benefit our learning and understanding of the Holocaust that most students do not receive.

In addition to the Holocaust Museum, a trip to Washington D.C. would give the students time to tour other historical cites throughout the city. A one-week trip to D.C. would enable the students to spend two days touring the Museum and four to five days touring other historical cites. Even though I am greatly interested in learning more about the Holocaust, not every student is. An entire week in D.C. would give other students the chance to tour some of the United State's most historical cites. And of course managing to receive a trip to the White House would be an amazing experience for any student.

A trip to the White House would not only be a historical and educational benefit, but also just a great attraction and experience for the students.

Growing up in a small town in Nebraska, many kids do not even dream of visiting New York or Washington D.C. A trip to D.C. would be extremely educational for each student, but not only that, it would be an experience they can remember for the rest of their lives. Some of these students will stay in small town Nebraska for their entire adulthood. Not saying small town Nebraska is bad, but to experience what big city life is like would be very beneficial for every student. Students may just realize that there is more to our world than just what we see in Nebraska. And visiting the White House could get more students interested in becoming involved in politics or just watching the news to learn what is happening in our nation.

If a millionaire agreed to fund a one-week trip to anywhere in the world for ten students from my school, I would want it to be the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. This trip to the museum would enhance our learning of World War II and the Holocaust itself. It would also give the students time to tour the rest of D.C. to learn more about historical sites and even the White House. A trip to D.C. could be a once in a lifetime experience for some of these students who have never traveled out of the Midwest. This amazing opportunity would give students more insight, education, and fun to remember for the rest of their lives.

Organization: 4

4-4-4-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about a trip to Washington D.C. The three main ideas are presented in the introductory paragraph and continue to be well connected throughout the response as each of the ideas continue to be referenced. The pacing is well controlled and transitions are used effectively to connect the main points and build the ideas. A strong conclusion effectively summarizes the essay, and paragraphing is sound.

If a millionaire provided ten students from my school to go on a one-week trip to anywhere in the world, I would pick the destination Washington D.C. Washington D.C. would be a great spot because students would learn about the history of our nation, become more educated, and understand how differently the east coast operates compared with the midwest. This would be a wonderful opportunity to be awarded with for all of those reasons.

In Washington D.C. they would have the chance to tour the White House and there, earn a better understanding of how our government works. This could help them for later on if they were considering a career option in the politician field. It would help them decide on which college they want to attend based on if law and government would still be an interesting factor in their consideration. They would gain the knowledge of what our current President does each day and also facts on our past presidents. Overall, this opportunity would provide them with a better understanding of our nation's history.

They could also have the chance to visit the Holocaust Museum which would elaborate information which we have already consumed on the topic of the Holocaust. They would get a better feel for concentration camps, effects that the war caused, and also learn more about Hitler and his persuading tactics. If they were to tour the museum, it would not only educate them with much more details of that era, but help to create a better future for our generation by continuing to educate ourselves and make sure we do not make the same past mistakes over again.

In the Midwest, we are considered the smaller populated area of the United States, while the East Coast is much more crowded and filled with larger cities. Some students will never get the chance to leave the Midwest and broaden their horizons and for this reason I think Washington D.C. is a perfect spot. They would be able to see the other side of our country and compare it with our way of life. Based on what they saw, they would be able to make the choice of which area they enjoyed better and maybe even consider a college education in the eastern part of the country.

Washington D.C. would be the ideal spot for a class trip. As I have said, the students would learn more on the history of our nation, become more educated, and get a feel for the eastern part of our country. In turn, this would provide students the opportunity of a lifetime, a trip they would not soon forget.

Organization: 3

3-3-3-3

While the structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is present in this response, it is functional in construction. A simple introduction presents the three main ideas; however, effective introductory transitions connecting these main ideas are lacking. Pacing is generally controlled and internal transitions, where present, are functional. Paragraphing is generally successful; however, the concluding paragraph simply reiterates the main points presented in the introduction.

With enough funding a good trip for students to take would be the Illinois Holocaust Museum. It is a great learning experience and all students could benefit from it. As time goes on more and more Holocaust survivors are passing away and their first hand experience that they share is as well. The museum helps children visit with actual survivors, see exhibits that better explain the history than textbooks and the experience allows the students learn about the past so that as humans we can all learn from it and better our future.

At the museum over 600 kids visit every day on average and one of the benefits they get from the experience is that they get to go beyond what they have heard from teachers and beyond what they've read in their textbooks and they get to meet and listen to people who have actually lived through what the Holocaust was. They have well educated staff that is knowledgeable enough to answer any questions asked.

Another advantage that they students would gain from their trip would be seeing all the exhibits. Being able to see first hand the conditions that the victims were faced to live with. They would get to see all of the memorials held for the loved ones who had passed away. And better be able to understand how such things like the gas chambers worked and how they were used.

With this experience they students would be able to better understand this event and would know the history of it in a way they wouldn't soon forget. An experience like they would help people to continue to talk about the Holocaust and its history. This is what is needed for people to understand the past and to change their future.

Education of history is important to the way people live and with funding Illinois Holocaust Museum would be a great place to go. Students would be able to learn so much more than what they get from their textbooks and their school curriculum. They can talk to people who have lived through the Holocaust and people who were educated on the subject. Students would see exhibits first hand giving them a real experience. And with that experience and the knowledge they would gain it can help them understand the past and plan for a better future.

Organization: 3

3-3-3-3

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is present in this response. While there is some inconsistency between the order of ideas in the introduction and the way they are presented in the main body of the essay, the functional structure is generally controlled with some transitions and a somewhat logical progression of ideas. The paragraphing is generally successful but not sound.

Our Agriculture class has been learning and studying many things about agriculture in the world. We have not only been learning about agriculture in the U.S. we have been learning about it from around the world. It would be greatly appreciated if you would settle on picking our class to be the class that gets to go on a trip generous to you. Picking us would let us learn even more about becoming more successful in the agricultural business.

First off, all ten people in the agriculture class are planning on going to college for some sort of agriculture and then later after college either start a business or help somebody on their farm. All ten people also come from an agriculture background, so we know how to work hard and get the job done right and quickly. The ten of us students have learned about some of the business management skills to run a farm. We have learned that it takes hard work and commitment to become successful.

A place that would help our class learn about agriculture but at the same time what it is going to take to start a business to make it successful would be a Threemile Canyon Farms. This farm as the largest dairy operation in the U.S. but this isn't all they do; they also grow crops such as potatoes. They use the waste from the cattle and use that to fertilize their field so they can increase the yield of their crops and with better yield of their crops they can produce better crops for more money. With doing this they are using all the resources they have to improve life for people and so it doesn't hurt our world.

Thirdly, for picking our class to go and see this farm in Oregon and spend a week with them to see how they get everything done in a days worth of time would benefit everyone in the class. We can learn how they are still running sense the times are tough and prices for many things are down. We would also sit down with their head guy of the farm and tell us how he got started and how us students would could get started for our farms to become successful, but also he could tells us how to be successful and learn to use things that we have to make our productions of crops or farm superior.

In conclusion selecting our agriculture class of ten people would be best for not only one but for everyone in the class. We all are planning on being in the field of agriculture management and business for the rest of our life so learning young on how to become successful would be beneficial to get our company started. Not only would we learn how to become successful in the management but also we could learn how to get our company out to the world and become a large production and the hard work and dedication. Picking us would let us experience what it is like to have a successful farm.

Organization: 2

3-2-3-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response. The pacing is somewhat inconsistent and does not follow a logical progression of ideas. Weak transitions do not connect the ideas together, and paragraphing is somewhat irregular.

Paris, a beautiful foreign country that has a lot of diverse characteristics to propose in education, sights and people. I truly believe that Paris would be a very good educational opportunity for the students in my school, it is a well spoke about country and its art can be seen from around the world. I believe my trip should be chosen for our one-week trip.

Everyone has heard about and maybe even observed the Eiffel tower, this is an amazing sight I have heard about but never seen, it would be great for us teenagers to survey Paris and also view the historic sights that are centuries of years old. We could learn the history of the monuments and also view them at the same time.

People in Paris can be very fascinating. You can see some of them in only pictures and magazines, but to see how these people live and dress up close would be really fun, in my opinion. Some people see people living in Paris to be snobby or rich, but that's just what we get in our heads from television shows and more. I believe that we could potentially interview some locals of Paris and get data on why they live there and possibly their family history.

Another great prospect is inspecting out the local food hot spots, Paris's food is said to be rich tasting and very delicate, with their nice little cafes and five star restaurants.

In time it may come in handy to have visited Paris and accessed knowledge of its people, sights and its local elegance. Paris is a place you can vacation and acquire wonderful memories you will never cease to forget.

Organization: 2

2-2-3-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response. While three main reasons for visiting Paris are presented, the pacing is inconsistent, and weak or missing transitions do not connect the ideas. A weaker introduction and brief conclusion are evident, and paragraphing is irregular.

Nesa Writing Prompt

There are many locations that would be both, beneficial to students learning experience and that would also be fun and enjoyable to visit. One could go to Paris, Greece, or even China. Another great place would be the pyramids of Egypt. The school should spend the millionaires money to take a trip to Egypt and to visit the pyramids.

First off, Egypt could be very educational in the way that students could visit the sphinx and the pyramids. Students could visit these global landmarks and learn about the history of the Egyptian empire and its rise to power. They could also learn about the all powerful Egyptian pharoos.

Organization: 1

1-1-2-3

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this response. Pacing is awkward. Transitions are missing and so the list of ideas presented are not connected. Paragraphing is ineffective.

When our class first decided to join the contest for a trip anywhere in the world for one week, we immediately chose Moscow. First for the educational purpose, and second for the because of the learning experiences. For one the chance to visit the capital is something every one in the world should do, and did u know that the czar that had the capital building built had someone put out the architects eyes out so that he could not make anything like it true story. Also that country of Russia has seen many changes over the years.

When we get there we will learn about Russia's history, government. if we are chosen we will not squander this rare learning opportunity. If we are chosen we will learn about Stalin.

We will learn about the U.S.S.R. The communists. Also we will learn about Lenin.

when we go on this trip and i am sure we will, when we get there we will not do anything to get in to trouble.

Organization: 1

1-1-1-1

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this response. Pacing is awkward as a list of somewhat random thoughts about Russia is presented. The ideas are not organized, and transitions are lacking. Paragraphing is ineffective.

Voice / Word Choice

When an opportunity for adventure arises, it excites many peoples' imagination. Some start to think of tropical and beach-like destinations. Others think of someplace high in the mountains where skiing and snowboarding is abundant. However, when taking a group of ten selected students on a trip, it is best to have a trip that is educational, interesting, and a grand adventure, above all. The country of Brazil hosts many different aspects of life and culture that are unlike any seen in the continental United States. It offers rain forests, slums, oceans, and many more cultural and geographical features. A trip to Brazil would provide the ten students a trip to learn and grow within themselves and help others around them upon their return.

From early grade school, kids have been taught about the Amazon Rainforest and its amazing features. The indigenous people, the animals, the plants, and everything unique to the rainforest were always ones of curiosity. There was no way of directly experiencing the information from which kids were taught, but it was taught every year. Having the chance to learn and experience something that has been taught to a person for many, many years first-hand would be an incredible chance for understanding. Students would flourish and grow underneath the canopies of the Brazilian Amazon Rainforest.

Extreme poverty and lack-of-having are two concepts that are widely not understood by the common American teenager. Things are seemingly given or taken without reciprocation or need to repay. However, it is an extremely different situation in Brazil. Families are often separated and kids fend for themselves, houses are in shambles, food is scarce, and people do what they can to make it through the day. With teens who are able-bodied and there for experience, the ten students selected can work with the Brazilian people to help build up one another. Volunteering, cleaning, cooking, and having fun with other teens, younger children, and even adults can bring in a sense of pride and happiness into an area that may not have the same benefits that typical American children do. A real-life experience of real-life slums would give a new sense of appreciation to the selected students that they may have not had before. Upon returning to the United States, the students may share their experiences and help start new programs in their communities to encourage others to branch out and assist those in need.

Tying in with learning about helping those in need in Brazil, it would give the students a chance to learn about a culture that is seemingly perpendicular to their own.

Foods, language, customs, and the like would open up doors and pathways that were not accessible in the United States. Out of the ten students, perhaps five are studying the Spanish language. The trip would give them a chance to try-out their skills and solidify all they had learned in the classroom. Trying new foods and drinks would help promote diversity between the students. When they would return to their school and the United States, they would have the opportunity to share their new tastes. It would make an impact on the social ranking and statuses encompassing the stereotypical high school student. A national parade, Carnival, is a huge cultural symbol of the Brazilian people. With being able to be a part of that experience, the students would learn so much more about it first-hand than they could have through a textbook or online source. If one of the student's classes happens to study Carnival after the trip, the student would be an excellent resource to gain new knowledge and facts through a first-hand perspective.

After getting the full knowledge aspect into the trip, the student would enjoy taking a relaxing trip to the ocean and, without them even realizing it, they would be included in more cultural learning experiences. Wind surfing, scuba diving, sailing, and parasailing are all water activities native to the Brazilian people. Lessons would be available to the students to learn and engage in these activities, but they could also learn from the Brazilian peoples. This experience would be the experience of a lifetime for the students. Perhaps some of the students have never seen an ocean, let alone actually been to an ocean. It would give the students a new understanding that is usually misunderstood by high school students: learning can be fun and it does have its benefit.

Overall, a trip to Brazil would be a learning experience, but it would also give the selected students a chance to relax and have fun. New ideas, customs, and learned experiences would be brought back with each and every student, appealing to an educational and fun sense of the trip. It would be a chance not every student and teacher could make, but it would make for a beneficial trip that everyone could learn from because of the students who took part in the trip. Giving an eye to a completely different world than the one most are used to would open up and create many different pathways, but most importantly, it would benefit the students, Brazil, and the school as a whole, which many other places in the world cannot emphasize.

Voice/Word Choice: 4

4-3-4-4

The writer demonstrates a strong commitment to the idea that a trip to Brazil would be a beneficial experience for a small group of students. The language is precise, varied, and engaging throughout the essay. A passionate, enthusiastic, and persuasive voice is well suited for the purpose of convincing a millionaire to fund the trip. The writer consistently anticipates the reader's questions and clearly explains how Brazil would be an educational, interesting, and grand adventure.

The world is full of opportunities, and some people rarely get the chance to take a trip to different places around, and the chance to have the first hand experience of all the different cultures. I would like to personally thank you for providing such a trip that would allow ten of us to experience such a trip. Students of today should get the chance to experience what life for people in third world countries have to go through every day to survive, and that is why Africa would be a good destination for this week long trip. This would allow the students to see how people live, the different cultures, and experience a terrain that can be found nowhere else in the world.

In society today, everything is provided for us. No one has to go hungry, if they have any health issues help is only a phone call away, and fresh food and water are simply just there. We take everything for granted, and truthfully, we are all spoiled. In Africa however, they do not have the convenience of fresh food, water, shelter, or medical help. They do not and cannot live a life as we do, theirs has more troubles than ours ever will. A chance for students to fully see how the people who live in Africa live their lives would change theirs drastically, and put into perspective much we have to be thankful for.

I recently spoke with my Aunt who visited Africa over the past winter holiday. She spoke of how the people there do not celebrate holidays by giving gifts, but by cherishing their time together. They are not judged on the items they own, but on how they use their items for the greater good. The U.S. culture is much different from theirs. If the students were able to attend the trip, they could see how an x-box or television is not the only joy in life. There are also many different traditions that the people who live in Africa follow. The internet or the television do not fully show just how different it would be to live there instead of here.

Native plant to the U.S. include oak trees, deer, rabbits, grass, the usual thing we can see every day. There is no place in Africa where any of these specimens live. Instead they have zebras, elephants, gazelle, prairie grass and many other creatures and plants what would only be available to see in a zoo or wildlife preserve. A week long trip to Africa would allow student to see how these things live and survive there, and how the humans and animals share the land together, like we do here. I assume that it would get much harder to get an elephant out of your front yard than a white tailed deer.

Going to Africa for a week would be the trip of a life time for the ten lucky students chosen to go. It would definitely give them a culture shock, but it would also let them see the different life styles of the natives to that country, and the different landscapes around them. I would like to thank you again for giving us the opportunity to experience this, and I hope I get the chance to see you, on the savanna.

Voice/Word Choice: 4

3-3-4-4

The writer demonstrates a strong commitment to the idea that a trip to Africa would be the trip of a lifetime. An enthusiastic, appreciative, and well-informed voice is convincing and well suited for the purpose as the writer compares life in the U.S. to a view of life in Africa. A strong awareness of the audience is evident through the personal touches and the humor of the writer, and the language is specific and engaging throughout. The writer consistently anticipates the reader's questions.

Writing Assessment

I know that I, along with many other people in my school, have always dreamed about taking a trip with my fellow students to a destination somewhere across the globe. I believe that any such trip would be very educational to the students in our school, but I feel that a trip to Europe would benefit us the most. A trip like this would be a once in a lifetime opportunity for many of the students in this school to experience cultures radically different from the one that they have grown up with.

I believe that any trip like this would be very beneficial to the students in our school, or any school. A trip across the world with the people we have grown up with would provide us with an educational experience as well as a time to bond with our classmates. If we were able to go on a tour to overseas we would no doubt learn a lot about the people and the culture of the region. We would have the opportunity to visit many historic landmarks that we have only read about in our textbooks. I, for one, believe that the best way to learn is to travel. Reading about events and places in textbooks only sticks with us for a short amount of time, but if we were able to travel to the places we have only heard about we would gain memories that would last our entire lives.

I believe that any trip to a different place and culture would be beneficial and educational to our school, but I think that a trip to Europe would be the best choice. Europe has a very old and rich history that we would be able to see and experience through there many historic landmarks. As a small town in central Nebraska most of our ancestors came from Europe so we would be able to learn a little bit about our own history as well as the regions. Also by traveling to Europe we would be able to experience many different cultures and areas because of their advanced public transportation system. By

Writing Assessment

taking overnight trains we would be able to fall asleep in one country and wake up in another. If we were to travel this way we would be able to visit a wide variety of countries for a relatively low cost, where as if we were to travel to a large country we would only be able to experience a few things.

Now that you know why I believe that taking a class trip is a good idea and where I would like to go you might be asking yourself why should I pick this school? Because our classes at this school are very small, not very many people would be left behind if you designated one class to go, such as the senior class. The selection process would be far easier for our school then it would for a larger school because we would only have to leave three or four students behind. Also chances are that there would be a few students who wouldn't want, or wouldn't be able, to go in the first place. Because we live in such an isolated area it is difficult for the students of our school to learn about different cultures. For example if we, as a school, were chosen to go it would be the first time any class has gone overseas in our school's history. It would be a once in a lifetime opportunity for our students.

As you can see a trip overseas would be very beneficial to the students in our schools. It would be an opportunity for them to see things they have only ever heard about. I believe that a trip to Europe would benefit our students the most because of it's rich history and because it would be the least expensive and most practical way to experience many different cultures. By traveling we would be able to make memories that would last forever. I, on behalf of the students of _____ High School, would like

to thank you for considering our school for this generous donation.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

3-3-3-3

The writer demonstrates a general commitment to the topic in this attempt to persuade a millionaire to fund a trip to Europe. While the voice is appropriate for the purpose of writing to a generous millionaire, it is not particularly persuasive or convincing in voice. The language is generally specific and precise but also somewhat repetitive and not truly engaging throughout. The writer has anticipated the reader's questions while presenting his/her reasons to be considered for the generous donation.

In one week, many things can happen. Just one week could change someones life, which is what I would intend to do. I would want to change someones life in a one week trip. Flying to Haiti to do anything I could to help would be my first choice. Going to Haiti would be a very educational trip and also life changing.

If I was selected to go on a one week trip to anywhere of my choice, I would go to Haiti. Although this disaster was awhile ago, affects from it arent being delt with, and they need our help. The trip would be very educational for the ten students chosen, we would learn just what happened in Haiti. In history class students at ' learn about Haiti, and the affects it has had on the people and their homes. Seeing pictures of Haiti is very depressing, but you really don't know how bad it is until you see it in person.

Visiting Haiti is not only educational, but may help you to get an education. When a college looks at your transcript and see that you went and helped in Haiti they will definitely take another look at accepting into their college. They will see that you have good people skills and know what is right to do. Having that on your transcript would really make you an asset to their college.

By visiting Haiti you can learn people skills. Also it is something that would be life changing. Just knowing that you may have saved a persons life is very fullfilling. You may even want to visit other places where natural disasters have occurred to help them.

All in all, a trip to Haiti would be educational, inspirational and life fulfilling. While other students are looking to go to a place in Europe or somewhere exotic to just have fun and relax, ill want to go to Haiti to have fun but to also change lifes.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

3-3-3-3

The writer demonstrates a general commitment to the topic of a trip to Haiti. The voice is somewhat convincing and generally appropriate for the purpose, but is not particularly persuasive or engaging. The language is also generally specific and somewhat varied. The writer has generally anticipated some of the reader's questions.

Writing Assessment

I believe that with this funding we should go to the Nations Capital. We would be able to have a nice trip and get out of school but also being able to learn about our capital. It would be a fun and educational trip. We could go see the White House, The Statue of Liberty, and even some of the memorials.

First off going to White House would be a cool way to learn about our president. To actually go and see it will be totally different then just seeing it in a book. The White House is what you think of when you hear Washington D.C. Just to be able to see it would be cool and if we could go inside that would be quite the experience. I'm also sure that everyone else would also like to see the White House.

Next thing we could go see is the Statue of Liberty. I would love to go see lady liberty and learn the history behind her. Knowing more about her would be nice like how we got here and how it was made. She is a big symbol of the United States of America and I think that it is important to be able to see it.

Finally I think that a trip to some of the memorials would be very helpful. We would be able to learn more about our presidents while having fun doing so. I think that the Lincoln memorial would be a good one. I've always wanted to see the big Abraham Lincoln statue. The Washington memorial would be another good one. I think these would be nice.

These are just some of the things that we could see while we are there. We could even go see the Declaration of Independence or maybe even see the president. There are a lot more historical, educational, and fun things to there. This trip would be a good way to learn more about our country and how it started. It would be a good way to finally get out of school and have a little fun. I think that if this man is going to be generous enough to donate all this money we should put it to good use and I believe that this is a good way to do that.

Voice/Word Choice: 2

3-3-2-3

The writer demonstrates a limited commitment to the topic of a trip to our Nation's Capital. The language is only occasionally specific, precise, and engaging. The overuse of simple, weaker word choices (fun, nice, cool, good) is not particularly persuasive and somewhat inappropriate for the audience and purpose. The writer anticipates few of the reader's questions.

If I had some one to pay for a trip to go anywere 10 of us wanted to go. I would pick to go to some were out in the troics in the junga with nice wight sand beacheds. We live in nubraska theres no tmuch around here beside corn and cows. I think whis this trip wiould be vay eucational we would lear aboul lot of difrint thinks like colture what people eat in thes contrys and what the do for fun. What cid of hard ships they go throw on a day to day bacesa. Just see how people live I think that would be the funist thing ever.

The first thing I would do on thia vacatino would be eat lots of street food because in some contry streat food are the best. Then I would talke to the locols and find out what they do for fun or to pass time. After I had eatin evry thing I cand and done evry thing there is to do I will just sit on the beach and injoy the rest of the time I have left.

Voice/Word Choice: 2

2-1-2-1

The writer demonstrates a limited commitment to the topic of a vacation to the tropics. The language is occasionally precise, specific, and somewhat engaging (white sandy beaches... what kind of hardships they go through on a day to day basis... there's not much around here besides corn and cows). The voice, while evident, is unconvincing and somewhat inappropriate for the purpose (I will just sit on the beach and enjoy the rest of the time I have left). The writer anticipates few of the reader's questions.

If a local or far away millionaire decided to give 10 people from school a free on week trip any where they want. If it was me I would chose like a big concert like Kid Cudie or like lil Wayne or any other person.

The other place probly any one would chose is like a tropical resort like the Bahamas or go on cruse because most of that cruse would be educational like looking for different plants or telling like the different lengths like how far you can see or telling how different parts of the ship work. The reason I think

high school is the best because we have the best attendance record in the district and probly the cleanest and most orderly school and the best grade point average out of the whole district out doing East and North Star.

And the other part of the trip can involve some of either Nebraska's history or the history of the U.S.A like Pearl Harbor or just going to the super bowl or just the Olympics seeing different sports from around the world and that will help a lot of people.

So that's why I think we should be chosen.

Voice/Word Choice: 1

1-1-1-1

The writer demonstrates little commitment to the topic. The writer fails to anticipate the reader's questions. The voice is inappropriate for the purpose.

A class is going to California to see history and sport sites. the first place is San Franco. to see the sold gold gate bridge. and to see the 49ers stade. then off to Fresno. to see the Fresno state bulldogs. then to Los Angles county to see the university of southern California to watch a football game vs the Oregon docks. then to UCLA to see there science programs. Singan they have one of the best. then to see Kobe Bryant and the laker's. then to down down town where the BPP protested for a stop light. then went to Hollywood and saw famous people.

Voice/Word Choice: 1

2-1-1-1

The writer demonstrates little commitment to the topic of a trip to California. The voice is not persuasive, is unconvincing, and inappropriate for the purpose. The writer fails to anticipate the reader's questions.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions

If a genie offered you three wishes, what would you ask for? The possibilities are endless, and each wish would have to be well thought out. A similar situation arises when the opportunity is available to travel anywhere in the world. If a generous millionaire were truly willing to fund a one-week trip for ten students, the perfect destination would be Sydney, Australia and the Whitsunday Islands north of the country's capital. With a tropical climate very different from Nebraska, this location offers rich cultural diversity and is home to the Great Barrier Reef.

While travels may be lengthy, the Australia is a worthy destination for high school students. The group would most likely arrive in Sydney to begin the trip, faced with amazing sights such as the Sydney Opera House, the Sydney Harbor Bridge, and the Sydney Tower. While a week is far from enough time to experience all that this wonderful city has to offer, it would certainly allow students to have the times of their lives. I have personally traveled to Sydney, and was overwhelmed by the true beauty of the city. The Sydney Opera House is the iconic symbol of Sydney, notorious for its appearance next to the Sydney Harbor Bridge in post cards and travel brochures alike. Inside, this wonderful piece of architecture hosts countless theatrical, musical, and cultural events, complete with several different auditoriums. For students to truly experience what the Opera House has to offer, attending a show or event would be ideal. In addition to shows, the Opera House is a highly educational environment. Its rich history and complex story are truly amazing, and informational tours are offered on a daily basis.

North of Sydney, Australia is the Whitsunday Islands. This second destination is easily reachable by airplane, similar to a flight between states here in the US. Once they have arrived here, students will be ocean-bound as they head for the Great Barrier Reef (about 15 miles off the coast of mainland Australia). As one of the seven natural wonders of the world, the Great Barrier Reef opens an individual's eyes to the beauty and truly diverse environment that the Ocean is home to. While scuba diving is the ideal way to experience the reef, snorkeling also provides a window to the underwater world. Visible from space, the Great Barrier Reef is a massive sight when viewed in person, and it would most likely be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most students.

A generous millionaire would change students' lives by funding a trip to Australia. Providing amazing sights and wonderful cultural experiences, Sydney would be an amazing destination. After spending time in the city, the trip would be capped off in the Whitsunday Islands, home to the Great Barrier Reef. As an international destination, Australia is probably the country most similar to the United States. Travel would be a breeze, and students would not experience a language barrier (a currency barrier would rarely exist as well, as the Australian Dollar is worth almost exactly the same as a US Dollar). Australia is truly an amazing country, and each student would have the time of their lives in one of the most beautiful places on earth.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 4

4-3-4-4

Sentences vary in length and structure throughout this response about a trip to Australia. Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct.

In all of the United States, there is probably the most political education and history in Washington D.C. In all of the United States, there is probably the most fun attracting events in Las Vegas. I choose to be different. I guarantee you will get thousands of recommendations to go to one of these two locations, and that is why I choose that the best trip would be something out of the ordinary, something like the Oregon Trail. The most entertaining and educational trip would be a reenactment of the Oregon Trail.

The ten students would be split up into two groups of five and each group would have a guide (who is also knowledgeable of the Oregon Trail history), two oxen, a covered wagon, and plenty of food and water. The students would have the opportunity to see how people traveled in the Westward Expansion in a real physical sense. The students would be able to see nature life all around them and would get a glimpse of the struggle and hardship it was to travel back then.

One might argue that there is now roads and private property blocking the Oregon Trail. Yes there is some places that the covered wagon and oxen could not cross but through Nebraska and Iowa there is still plenty of open rolling fields of grass and wildlife. The point isn't necessarily to directly follow the Oregon Trail but more to get a glimpse of the world outside of the big skyscraper, stress filled cities.

Along the way, the guide would have specific points to rest and to teach important facts of the trail our ancestors once voyaged. An example of an important stop of interest would be Chimney Rock in Nebraska. Here the guide would tell what the Chimney Rock meant to the Oregon Trail voyagers and how it was a sign of hope for the remainder of the trip. The students would have time to take pictures while learning the history that has developed all around them.

This trip would also work as a relaxing, mind clearing trip. The nature would allow the students to get out of their specific time crunching schedule and would allow for mind relaxation. Children in our time get caught up in getting a thousand things done as fast as possible and this sort of trip would be slower moving yet and eye opening experience. Places like Washington D.C. and Las Vegas are all about the big city, get a thousand things done feeling. On one trip I went to Washington D.C., we had a set schedule with five places to travel to each day. Yes the trip was very educational and had

many interesting places to be, yet by the end of the trip I was just tired and bored, and all I wanted to do was get home. An Oregon Trail trip would be exciting at all times and not too overpowering with a thousand facts and events thrown at you.

Most of all, I think an Oregon Trail trip would be the best trip to go on because it is different. Many people have been to big cities and have seen cool statues and sweet man made towers, but not many have seen natural wonders not touched by a single human finger like Chimney Rock. The Oregon Trail takes children outside of their little neighborhood comfort zone and shows the real nature of life. The Oregon Trail trip would be the most eye opening and educational trip that could be possible.

I know that you will be receiving thousands of recommendations of where you should put your money into hosting a trip for ten high school kids. While you are reading them you can ask yourself what trip would take these high school kids out of their comfort zone and into a real learning and life changing experience.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 4

3-4-4-4

Sentences vary in length and structure throughout this response about a trip along the Oregon Trail. Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct.

The Rocky Mountain Experience

Colorado one of the United States most beautiful states has many destinations that we could enjoy. This state has everything we could possibly want. We could spend time skiing down some of Colorado's excellent slopes or spend some time hunting in some of the most populated areas of Elk in the world. Last but not least we could go hiking on some of Colorado's public hiking trails. Colorado is the place to go to experience the rugged mountain landscape and have experiencing it.

Colorado has some of the best ski slopes in the whole world. When I last visited Colorado I met many different people from many different areas of the world, they all came to visit Colorado's beautiful ski resorts. When a person first steps onto the freshly powdered snow and takes a breath of the Mountain air it awakens you, the feeling energizes you. One thing the ski slopes have done well in Colorado is made sure there is plenty of ski lifts to take you anywhere you want to go on the slopes making every slope very accessible, making sure that you spend more time skiing than waiting in line to reach the top of the mountain. Finally the ski resorts on these mountains and truly an experience in itself. Each resort has beautiful handcrafted wood to accent the mountain landscape. In the lodge there is always a fire burning, this combo gives you an experience that can't be found anywhere else.

Next is the ideal hunting that resides in Colorado. Many different species live in the Rocky Mountains one of the most protégés is the Elk. The elk is an animal that shows extreme power but a sense of gracefulness in how it maneuvers through the mountain forests. In Colorado there are many different Guide services that will lead you up into these mountain forests to find these amazing animals. During Elk season it is

amazing outside it is neither too hot nor too cold, which makes hiking up through the mountains less uncomfortable. The Elk is not the only animal in the Rocky Mountains so there are many different species that can be hunted in the wilderness such as the white tailed deer, big horned sheep, and the occasional moose. With all these species there is endless opportunities to explore deep into the Rocky Mountains where most people will never see.

Finally the hiking trails Colorado provides. The public trails in Colorado are some of the best in the country. These trails will give you the chance to experience Colorado's entire beautiful mountain atmosphere. Most of Colorado's trails are paved and or have gravel on them making them a fun and clean experience. The trails allow you to experience some tremendous views of the mountains. Also the trails allow you to get a good amount of exercise, which will give an even better feeling about yourself. When you are hiking you have plenty of time to associate with friend and other people on the trail it is a chance to meet and get a better understanding of people. Hiking will help a person unwind and relax after a great vacation in Colorado.

In Conclusion Colorado is a great area to spend time; a trip to Colorado is a great destination to spend money on. Colorado many more opportunities than I have mentioned in my essay. But being able to ski, hunt, and hike in only one state is an opportunity in itself. Going through life and not experiencing Colorado is a mistake. Colorado offers so much with a cost of so little. It is the place to be to have fun and experience the outdoors.

A generous millionaire is thinking about donating some money to fund our class for a trip. I think that this could be a once in a lifetime deal. I think that it would be an experience of a lifetime. You would learn many different educational experiences. The educational experiences are endless when you get to go on a trip like this too.

Going overseas to Europe would be a really fun and educational trip to take. This would be a once in a lifetime chance for many people to take advantage of. I think that this trip would be a highly educational experience. All of Europe is full of rich history and historical sites that visitors can come see. For example if you are learning about Ancient Rome you could go visit the coliseum. You could also visit other towns like Pompeii and Venice, which are packed with history.

I think that this would also change some student's view of Europe too. They would get to experience many different cultures. They could learn about all the different cultures with each country that they travel through. Students should realize that many Americans originated from Europe and came over to America. If students went to Spain they might be able to learn more about Christopher Columbus who discovered North and South America.

Some disadvantages of this trip would be the expenses of the trip. Food, transportation, and hotels or other types of housing would be a huge part of our educational trip to Europe. We would have to have enough money to provide enough motel rooms, food and transportation. There are also some dangers to going over to Europe. The transportation could put kids in danger of airplane, train or car

accidents. In some parts of Europe Americans aren't really well liked or treated well. But in most of Europe Americans are liked and welcome to visit freely.

I think that funding this trip would be well worth the time and money. It would provide tons of life experiences for the students to learn from. This is something that people might never get another chance to do in their lifetime too. I think that funding a trip like this would be very rewarding to a class that as went through high school to thank them for all the hard work that they have done. This is an experience where someone would look back and say, "Wow, I can't believe I did that."

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 3

3-3-3-3

Sentences generally vary in length and structure in this response about a trip to Europe. Phrasing generally sounds natural. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are usually correct. A few errors do not distract the reader.

If a young millionaire wanted to take 10 of our school's students on vacation for a week, I would want to go to Washington D.C., not only is Washington the Capital of the world, it is where the white house is, the National Museum of American History, Arlington cemetery, the Gettysburg ruins, Our Nations capital building, and so much more.

Going to The National Museum of American History alone, would be more than beneficiary for every student there. There are many things we can learn about our history. You can get a city wide tour for only \$35.

The Arlington cemetery, for me would be super cool because I would be in the presence of all of those solders that died for our country and the flame of JFK is there.

The Gettysburg ruins would also be very cool because I like to learn about history and that was the most famous battle of the war, which means it was the biggest and the worst.

We also could visit our Nations capital building which also has a lot of history inside of it.

So in my opinion I think we should go to Washington D.C. for this vacation of ours. I truly believe that if we go to Washington and we go to all the places I listed I believe we can come back as smarter people without a doubt.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 2

2-3-2-2

Sentences occasionally vary in length and structure in this response about a trip to Washington D.C. Phrasing occasionally sounds natural. Run-on sentences sometimes cause confusion. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors may distract the reader.

The one- week trip that you have generously given us for our ten students was very gracious of you. We would all like to thank you for your generosity and for giving us an opportunity of a life time to let us pick a place that we would find fascinating to us as well, Some of us students would like to go to Spain for this trip that you are sponsoring.

We chose Spain as a place that us ten students would like to go to because, we figured it would be a good experience for all of us to see how different their culture is and also to get to see and experience some of the wonderful and beautiful sights that Spain has to offer us, but not only get to experience their culture, and their countries natural beauty but to also learn some of their history as well. Some of the things I would like to go and see would be some of their castles that they have, I have seen pictures on the internet and have become very fascinated with the beauty of the castles and the history behind them as well. We also would like if we could have host families as well to get the feel of what a family living in Spain does on an ordinary day like us, and to also get to know some of the natives of the country. The trip to Spain would be very beneficial to us I believe because, not only do we get to experience something not many people do, but we would also get to see not only the natural beauty of Spain but get to know a couple of the natives and learn how they live, and also learn some of their culture, and more of their history, and that is why I think we should choose Spain.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 2

2-2-3-2

Sentences occasionally vary in length and structure in this response about a trip to Spain. Phrasing occasionally sounds natural. Run-ons are sometimes confusing to the reader. Some grammar, usage, and punctuation errors may cause distraction.

First i would like to tell you my three main reasons why are school should be choosen for this vaction Mr. Valentone. The first thing is why we should get the vaction and what we did to get this far and why. This Are class to the time to write to you and wanted to persuad you for this essay that i am writeing to you. This is the best thang that i gave herd all week.

First, the reason why I was because I we worked so hard to get this far and writing to you on i feal we did this as a class that we worked so hard for. When we herd this opertunity we were so ecited and we said to our selves we are juniors and we erved geting this. we need to show are kids some day that Mr. Valentone was the nices guy to donate to let us go on vacation. I would be honered. That would really be a good treat for our school to have and earn for the rest of our junor year is to have money donated.

Second, Our English teach told us that Mr. Valentone is wanting us to write a persuasiive essay and if we win we will get a vacation. Our class was in a daze for a while and it was realy cool i though that would be cool to go to Florida beach to have a good time for our vaction. and since our english teacher told us that we get to pick a place that we would.

Third this vaction is were would be the perfect spot to have fun at and make new friends and learn about the facts of Florida. But see we can have our teachers watch us just to make sure that we dont do anything bad. But we would never do that kind of a thing it would be cool to go out of state for once in our lives with out our parents.

All in all this is the reason why i would like to go to Florida for our Junior class. We like to have fun with our class mates and really get to know them out side of school. I have listed all the things that I have done and how I would like to have this great opertunity.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 1

2-2-2-1

Numerous grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors distract the reader throughout this response about a vacation to Florida. Sentences seldom vary in length and structure; fragments and run-ons confuse the reader. Phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural.

If my family went on a trip to Phoenix Arizona it would be very fun to go with because there a thousands of thing to do in Phoenix Arizona. Its always sunny and nice there is there alot of dirt and canyons and of city's in Arizona and my family loves baseball so if we go on a trip would get tickets to go watch a Arizona state University baseball for Arizona is all year long team they practice all the time and they have been to the college world series for last 5 years and going to that game would be awesome and there alot of big building to look at at. My favorite thing is the dance clubs thats to bad it not basketball season or i would get tickets to a Phoenix Suns game thats a place i like to go for a trip

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 1

2-1-2-1

Sentences seldom vary in length and structure in this response about a trip to Phoenix. Phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural. Run-ons cause confusion, and numerous grammar, usage, and punctuation errors throughout the response distract the reader.